Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 (ISO)W

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PR 050500Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6141

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, KU

SUBJ: FURTHER CABINET SPECULATION; THIRD PUBLICATION SHUT DOWN BY GOK

REF: (A) KUWAIT 4143, (B) KUWAIT 4198, (C) KUWAIT 4159,

(D) KUWAIT 4163, (E) KUWAIT 4022

1. PRESS SPECULATION OCL NEW CABINET HAS DECLINED IN PAST FEW DAYS AS RESULT OF AUGUST 31 PUBLIC ADMONITION TO SEVERAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEWSPAPERS BY CEPPRIMIN/MININFO, JABER AL ALI, TO EFFECT THAT

SPECULATION ONLY CREATES CONFUSION, AND "MIGHT HURT THE DIGNITY OF OTHERS". NEVERTHELESS, SEVERAL SEPTEMBER 4 PAPERS PREDICT CABINET WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN NEXT FEW DAYS. CONTRARY TO EARLIER PRESS SPECULATION (REF D) SEVERAL PAPERS NOW REPORT THAT OLD CABINET WILL BE RETURNED NEARLY UNCHANGED. PAPERS CONTINUE TO REPORT, HOWEVER, THAT ADDITIONAL MINISTRIES MAY BE CREATED.

- 2. PRESS REPORTS ALSO INDICATE THAT GOK HAS SHUT DOWN A THIRD PUBLICATION UNDER THE NEWLY AMENDED PRESS LAW (REF C). MININFO ORDER, DATED SEPTEMBER 2, CLOSED FOR THREE MONTHS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AL HADAF, WHICH IS THE WEEKEND EDITION OF AL WATAN (DAILY SHUT DOWN BY GOK AUGUST 31--REF D). CLOSURE ORDER REFERRED TO SPECIFIC ARTICLE ENTITLED: QUOTE EACH PERSON HAS THE RIGHT TO EXPRESS HIS OPINION, IN WRITING OR OTHERWISE. UNQUOTE.
- 3. REGARDING PUBLICATION IN KUWAITI NEWSPAPERS OF MATERIAL PLACED BY FOREIGN GOVERMENTS, GOK "RESPONSIBLE SOURCE" REPORTEDLY DENIED (AL QABAS, SEP 3) THAT LIBYAN GOVERMENT WAS BARRED FROM PLACING ARTICLES, BUT SOURCE NOTED THAT GOK DECREE OF AUGUST 22 (DESCRIBED REF E) DOES REQUIRE PRIOR APPROVAL OF GOK BEFORE ANY ARTICLES MAY BE PLACED IN KUWAITI PAPERS BY FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: CENSORSHIP, CABINET, THE PRESS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 03 JUN 2004

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